DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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EXCISE

CONFIDENTIAL

The Federal Government spends roughly $1 billion a year in combatting illicit narcotics trafficking and drug abuse. Approximately 95 per cent of that amount is expended here in the United States for law enforcement, demand reduction and addict rehabilitation. The remainder is devoted largely to international programs planned and implemented by the Department's Bureau of International Narcotics Matters (INM). For FY 1982, the Department will spend $36,700,000 throughout the world.

Latin America's importance as prime supplier of illicit cocaine and marijuana for the U.S. market has increased as production of the former has expanded in Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru and cultivation of the latter has grown in Colombia and Jamaica. For FY 1982, approximately 50 per cent of all our overall country assistance is planned for our Latin American programs.

Colombia

The USG has funded a cooperative narcotics control program with the Government of Colombia (GOC) throughout most of the 1970's. Although the GOC (especially the National Police with the tactical and operational support of the military) has launched an increasingly effective interdiction campaign, we estimate that less than 10 percent of the illicit drug traffic from Colombia has been affected.

The eradication of marijuana through aerial herbicide application is the only truly efficient and cost-effective means to destroy the crop when it is grown on a large scale. The recent amendment of the anti-paraquat Percy Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act has freed us from a prohibition against financing herbicidal marijuana eradication campaigns in foreign countries. As a consequence, we hope to initiate negotiations with the GOC on a cooperative eradication effort.

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

GDS, 1/15/88, GRANT, Terrence G.